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ISTITUTO DI GENETICA
UNIVERSITÀ DI PAVIA
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Prof. J. Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford Medical School
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

Dear Josh:

I have waited so long before writing because I always hoped to be able to give you more definite plans. Luca has been trying to have me called in Pavia but he run into the stubborn opposition of the local academic establishment. This means that I have to stay in Cagliari for at least another year (up to November 1969) with the result that the period that I could spend in Palo Alto will be shortened. I have been invited to present a paper at a symposium on ribosome structure that is going to be held in Kitzbühel around the 15th of September. After that meeting, I could come to Stanford for a couple of months at the most. Much as I would like to come, I wonder if it is not going to be a too expensive extravaganza thus causing a big financial burden on the Stanford-Pavia project. Please let me know your opinion.

We were thrilled by the news of your marriage and hope to meet Margaret and, in due time, an adequate number of "Lederberghini". By the way, "Vocabula Amatoria" was not meant as a pre- intra- or post-nuptial gift. Rather I thought it was the right "livre de chevet" for a bachelor in California. Now it should be burned in some sort of a family auto-da-fè.

Best regards to both of you.

Ciao

Orto